

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5 and 12 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 5 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE 199 18 025 in view of Microelectronic Circuits by Sedra et al. Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE 199 18 025 in view of Microelectronic Circuits by Sedra et al. and in further view of Electronic Circuits Discreet and Integrated by Shilling et al. Applicant respectfully traverses all rejections.

Independent claims 1 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE 199 18 025 in view of Microelectronic Circuits by Sedra et al. The teachings or suggestions to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, not in Applicant's disclosure. See In re Vacck, 997 F.2d 488, 20 U.S.P.Q.2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991); MPEP § 2143. To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, all the claim limitations must be taught by the prior art. In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 180 U.S.P.Q. 580 (CCPA 1974). "All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art." In re Wilson, 57 C.C.P.A. 1029, 1032 (1970).

Both independent claims 1 and 12 require the step of "pulling the base of the third transistor high via the first and second resistor to drive current from the local positive voltage into the gate of the NFET." The DE 199 18 025 reference does not teach driving current from the local positive voltage into the gate of the NFET by pulling the base of a third transistor. Instead, DE 199 18 025 as defined by the Examiner, teaches a charged pump circuit LP that creates a local positive voltage that flows through a resistor R1 into the gate of M1 or the NFET as defined by the Examiner. The third transistor M2 as defined

by the Examiner does not drive the current from the local positive voltage created by the charge pump circuit LP as required by the claim. The Sedra reference also does not teach this claim limitation. Thus, even if combined, the proposed combination would not have each and every limitation of claims 1 and 12 and therefore the obvious rejection must be withdrawn.

In addition, claim 12, in part, requires "pulling the base of the third transistor high via the first and second resistor to drive current from the local positive voltage into a gate of an NFET thus driving the coil of the electrohydraulic valve." The Examiner has not pointed to an electrohydraulic valve or coil of a valve that is taught by DE 199 18 025. Furthermore, Serda also does not teach the use of an electrohydraulic valve or coil of an electrohydraulic valve. Thus, the combination of the DE 199 18 025 and Serda references would not provide the step of "pulling the base of a third transistor high via first and second resistor to drive current from the local positive voltage into a gate of an NFET that is driving the coil of the electrohydraulic valve." Therefore, each and every limitation of independent claim 12 is not present when the references are combined and the obviousness rejection must be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

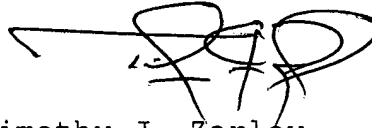
In view of the above remarks, Applicant believes that claims 1-5 and 12 are in condition for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests allowance of such claims.

If any issues remain that may be expeditiously addressed in a telephone interview, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at 515/558-0200.

All fees or extensions of time believed to be due in connection with this response are attached hereto; however,

consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted,
and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 50-2098.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Zarley', with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

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